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A
PRACTICAL TREATISE
ON
THE PREVENTION AND CURE
OF
THE VENEREAL DISEASE;
PARTICULARLY ITS CONSEQUENCES, AS,
STRICTURES AND AFFECTIONS OF THE
PROSTATE GLAND, &c. &c.
IN WHICH
A MILD AND SUCCESSFUL MODE OF TREATMENT IS
POINTED OUT.
WITH AN ILLUSTRATION OF
MONS. LALLIER'S METHOD OF CURING
STRICTURES,
AND AN ACCOUNT OF HIS CELEBRATED
BOUGIES, &c. &c.
BEING A SUPPLEMENT TO
DR. RICHARD REECE'S
DOMESTIC MEDICAL GUIDE.

By T. M. CATON, SURGEON.
LATE OF GUY'S AND ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITALS.
AUTHOR OF "A TREATISE ON VACCINATION," &c. &c.

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TO
DR. RICHARD REECE,

AUTHOR OF

THE DOMESTIC MEDICAL GUIDE, &c.

SIR,

Motives of delicacy having induced you to omit, in the last edition of *The Domestic Medical Guide*, directions for the prevention and treatment of the Venereal Disease, and its consequences; I have been encouraged to publish this Treatise as a Supplement to that very valuable work, and to offer it to the public under the powerful sanction of your name; which I do with the greater confidence, from the knowledge

that you have lately adopted the mild plan of treating obstructions of the urethra, suggested by Mons. Lallier: which the principal object of this publication is to make more generally known, and thus to supersede the necessity of caustic applications, which have in so many instances produced the most distressing complaints.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS MOTTS CATON.

Stanhope Street, Clare Market,
October 28th, 1807.

PREFACE.

THE principal view of the author, in this publication, is to recommend to the afflicted with stricture, and generally those affections of the bladder and urethra, which are the consequences of ill treated cases of Clap, the mild and efficacious remedy of a medicated bougie. On the composition and qualities of bougies, in such distressing complaints, the chief circumstances that are to be dreaded, and which prove too often fatal, are the morbid effects of it, which attack the passage of the urethra, and impede the discharge of urine. The foundation of the most serious evils is laid from this source; for the bladder becomes harrassed and worn out by the unavoidable and fruitless attempts to void the urine: Disease of course attacks its internal structure; its power, as a circular muscle, acting by its own irritability, becomes weakened, is often entirely lost, and the unhappy patient hardly

enjoys an hour of ease or tranquillity from the distressing sensations which are connected with this state. To remove such a train of formidable complaints, the only means in the power of medicine, is the use of the bougie, an instrument, the real nature of which has been but little understood, and its application accordingly too often made in an improper manner. The question is, whether this instrument should act *entirely* on mechanical principles, or should combine with this, a *medicated* and *healing*, or *sanative* operation. If we examine the natural structure of the parts to which it is applied, we find them endued with an exquisite sensibility, and in case of stricture this sensibility is increased to a morbid and often painful degree, not unfrequently accompanied with actual inflammation. The introduction then of any mechanical substance into a part in this state, cannot fail to cause irritation, and to heighten every painful symptom which attends the disease; nor is this at all necessary to effect the cure. The bougie, even if it acts mechanically, it is only necessary it should do so, on that part where the stricture or obstruction is situated.

Its acting on any other part of the passage, in another manner, is rather creating disease, than removing it.

The first idea of the bougie seems to have been wrong, as a means of applying medicine to the obstructed part; and, corresponding to this idea, the instrument was generally smeared with irritating, or caustic applications, for this purpose, on the principle of destroying it. This practice continued to the time of the celebrated Mr. Daran, who brought the bougie to greater perfection, and the use of it into more practice, than had ever been done before. Mr. Daran's improvement consisted in introducing into it ingredients of an irritating nature, but so blended as to be less active than those with which it was commonly smeared by the older surgeons. He likewise gave it a smoothness and fineness of surface, to which little attention had been hitherto paid. In its composition, however, Mr. Daran proceeded on a false supposition. He conceived that suppuration, or a discharge of matter from the urethra, was necessary to the cure of stricture; and, that the business of the destruction of this morbid enlargement took place by the sup-

purative process alone ; but this was entirely a mistake. There is little doubt that the success of his means depended much on the mechanical action of the instrument on the obstructed part ; and, that the irritation it produced elsewhere, so far from being serviceable, was exciting unnecessary uneasiness, weakening the constitution by a profuse discharge, and in other respects, operating prejudicially to the patient. But so much did he conceive his cures as connected with the medicated qualities of his instrument, that he concealed its composition, as a secret which remained in his hands, and was only exposed and refuted by Mr. Sharp, in his critical examination, after Daran's death. But, though Daran made a wrong application of the medicated qualities of the bougie, still it is not to be inferred that the medicated quality is not one of the most essential requisites to the cure. Of this, some later practitioners have been fully convinced, and accordingly Mr. Lallier, proceeding on a just idea of the business, has laid aside the irritating additions of Daran, and formed a bougie of a mild, soothing, and anodyne quality, suited to relieve the morbid

state of the parts, as well as to act powerfully on the disease.

In making his bougie, Mr. Lallier has given it all the requisites in point of shape and form, which are said to give a preference to the metallic kind, while it is clear that its more pliant texture will more readily accommodate itself to the shape of the urethra, and therefore be introduced with more ease and safety than any metallic one can. One circumstance in the case of metallic bougies to be observed is, that the irritation they excite, is generally so strong, that their application requires to be suspended occasionally. Hence the advantage gained at first is often lost, and the patient must wait in disagreeable anxiety till the first effects of their operation subside. On the contrary, Mr. Lallier's, when once begun, can be regularly continued; and by this means the period of cure is shortened, and no advantage that is gained comes to be lost by any interruption.

The objections thus applied to Mr. Daran's bougie, in his own hands, cannot but receive double force in those of his successors. These bougies employed by Dufour, are nothing

more than what were originally used by Daran, and without a new principle. Mr. Sharp's arguments are equally strong against them, as against Daran's. Mr. Lallier is the only modern author who has had the merit of perceiving Daran's error, and who has applied his knowledge of this to the cure of strictures with success, and on the most sound and rational principles. It is with the use of Mr. Lallier's bougies alone, that the author of the present work ever attempts to cure this complaint, which he has found by experience never to fail him; but to effect it in a manner superior to what is ever known or expected to be done by the application of others, whether plaster, metallic, or formed by any other substance.

Mr. Lallier's bougie acts as a defence, and, as it were, from its anodyne virtues, as a guard to the other parts of the urethra or passage free from obstruction. It does not irritate them, or produce from them a discharge, the consequence of irritation, which all other bougies uniformly do; but it takes off the spasmodic symptoms that are apt to arise; it lulls the morbid sensibility of the passage, the cause

of the pain, and other uneasy sensations, and it gradually insinuates through the stricture, accommodating itself to the form of it as it proceeds, till the cure is finally accomplished. For these reasons there can be no doubt of the deserved preference it possesses; and it is but justice to the author of this admirable invention, to say, that till his discovery took place, the bougie was not formed on any regular or scientific principles, so as to render it an instrument worthy for a surgeon to employ, or that could be used with certain success for the cure of this formidable malady.

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OF THE

VENEREAL DISEASE.

IT has been the common custom of authors, under the head of the Venereal Disease, to place gonorrhœa and syphilis, or confirmed lues, as one and the same disease; and this I presume has arisen, from a supposition that the same poison gives them both existence; but I am of opinion, they are diseases, distinctly springing from matter, whose specific contagion is evidently very different: therefore, I shall consider them as two separate diseases; but as they arise from an illicit connexion, to be the more clearly comprehended, I shall employ the term Venereal Disease, more as a class, than the name of the disease; and as the preventive means are applicable to both diseases, I shall also give them under this general head.

I shall first state the reasons for supposing the diseases do arise from the action of different specific contagions. If the same poison produced both diseases, should we not expect to find, that a man with a chancre on the glans penis would

uniformly communicate the gonorrhœa, or clap to a woman; inasmuch as the poison is first applied to a secreting surface in a woman, and vice versa. With persons in the habit of promiscuous intercourse, this point is very difficult to ascertain; but with married people it may be reduced to a certainty; for when a married man in the incautious hour of inebriety, contracts a venereal infection; he has uniformly communicated the same disease to his wife; evidence of this fact is but too frequently met with in private practice. If therefore, a man with a chancre on his penis was capable of exciting gonorrhœa, the question would long ago have been answered, as one case would have established the fact; but no such case in the annals of medicine can be found: will it be contended, that this is not more than presumptive evidence? if in the laudable pursuit of medical researches, an individual can produce a well authenticated fact, of the existence of a gonorrhœa having arisen from a chancre, down goes the contest and controversy, and I stand completely refuted.

I will now take the subject in a new light. Were the matter exciting both diseases, specifically the same, chancres and other symptoms of lues venerea, would follow want of cleanliness in gonorrhœa; for I am in possession of no reason, why the virus of gonorrhœa, in that case, by lying on the tender skin of the glans penis in men,

and inside of the labia in females, should not produce chancre, or, on being absorbed into the system, occasion bubo, and the other constitutional affections; for ulceration, it is a known fact, is not requisite for the introduction of this subtle virus into the circulation; on a very careful examination of ancient and modern records, no satisfactory instance can be found that bears analogy to such a case: again, my researches admit me to state, that if the matter of lues venerea be capable of exciting gonorrhœa, we should expect to find the latter disease, attending chancres, situated at the orifice of the urethra; such are daily met with; but an instance of gonorrhœa having followed, I have never met with, or heard of: again, if gonorrhœa be the production of the matter of lues venerea, acting on a secreting surface, why is not the same disease generated when applied to the secreting surfaces of the palate, nostrils and gullet, instead of which the accurate observer will find chancres in these situations are uniformly excited. In Scotland, it also appears, that the disease termed lues venerea, has existed for many years without being attended with gonorrhœa.

Mercury, the grand remedy of this disease, manifests no specific effects in cases of gonorrhœa; although attended with suppuration, and consequent ulceration, and therefore is not recom-

mended even by those who contend for the identity of the poison.

Having thus stated my reasons, I leave their consideration for the public, requesting they will bear in recollection that the observations I have made are warranted by an extensive practice.

The most important object of this treatise is to inculcate on the mind of every individual the necessity of extinguishing the venereal virus, without injury to the constitution; past experience and past misfortune, it is hoped, will teach practitioners to unite to their own experience, the experience of others; for, as the sagacious Dr. Freind justly remarked, "a man may practise and practise all the days of his life, and yet never be the wiser for his experience, if he neglects to make the proper observations which that experience might suggest to him; and it is not very likely he should be over nice in his observations, who constantly goes on in his first track, and has no scheme but his own narrow notions in view." To prevent individuals falling into such hands, first induced me to write this treatise, that a blind credulity to a particular system might not hurry to a premature grave an unguarded individual, and to snatch him from the griping claws of deadly empiricism. I shall therefore endeavour to show the possibility every man has in his pow-

er, by due care and attention, to prevent the venereal virus affecting his constitution: how far success will crown those endeavours, must be left to the decision of a candid public.

Respecting the specific particles of the venereal virus, the researches of the chemist, and industry of the physiologist, have left us where they found us; for this hydra-headed monster is only known to exist in the constitution from the effects it produces; experience, it is true, has taught us the utility of mercury, but experience has not yet explained its *modus operandi* on the venereal virus. Hence we may rationally infer, that the particles of this contagion are different from all others, and the affection is virtually virus sui generis. The opinion of the enlightened Sydenham respecting diseases, here shines with peculiar lustre, and is particularly applicable to this disease: "There are diseases," says he, "that come under the same genus, bear the same name, have the same symptoms in common, which, notwithstanding, being of a different nature, require a different treatment;" the truth of the above authority must forcibly strike every attentive observer of the effects of the lues venerea, for there is no disease to which the human body is subject of which it does not partake in some of its most prominent stages. I shall proceed to give a brief description of the different species of the venereal

virus as it arises in succession, with a general mode of treatment for the same.

From the sufferings of mankind, under this disease, it has been a favourite object ever since its appearance, to endeavour, by remedies to prevent its attack. The remedies for this purpose have been very numerous, and it will be needless to tire the patient with a list of them. The most successful are those which proceed on the principle of decomposing the poison; and the following forms are of this kind:

Take of muriate of mercury, one grain; dissolve it in a pint of common spring water, and filter it through paper; of this solution, mix a little in a tea-cup of water; and if the mouth can bear it without pain, it is fit for use. A syringe is then to be filled with it, and injected into the passage, either of the female or male, retaining it there for about half a minute, after which, the external parts may be washed with the same solution, and the whole finished with washing it away with warm water. Another preventive is the caustic alkali; a few drops put into water, of such strength that the tongue can bear without pain, may be used in the same manner as the former solution; cleanliness itself will also have a considerable effect, independent of any remedy whatever; and of this, women themselves, who are engaged in promiscuous connexions with the other sex, are well convinced.

Nay, the disease itself, as has been alleged by some writers, acts in a certain degree in its consequences as a preventive. For where a person has suffered more than one attack, the parts become as it were habituated to the action of the poison, and are not so easily affected as at first, for they lose in a certain degree that sensibility they originally possessed, and which tended to render them more susceptible of infection. This is instanced by the ease with which a person, on his first entrance upon the pleasures of the town, becomes the victim of disease; while the debauchee, or those accustomed to promiscuous indulgences, feel no inconvenience from their various illicit intercourses, even where it is hardly possible but infection must have been present.

OF CLAP.

Clap is a discharge from the urinary passage in the male, in consequence of the operation of a specific matter, and this generally happens with the last drops of seed of coition, which are apt to be retracted and carried back into the passage, as the parts collapse; its first symptoms are a little redness and swelling at the orifice, which soon shows a watery discharge flowing from it, and becomes a running of a whitish or yellowish matter in the course of a little time; the disease becomes then

as it were established. The period of its appearance is generally from four to eight days after connexion, though in this there is no certain rule; for the symptoms will with some individuals discover themselves so early as twenty-four hours, and in other cases not for the distance of some weeks. The seat of the discharge is at first not above an inch and a half within the orifice of the passage, but it gradually proceeds upwards as the disease gains ground. It has been common in describing this affection or Clap, to divide it into three stages; the first stage is marked by a troublesome itching at the point of the yard, and the orifice open, from which matter can be pressed. These appearances are succeeded by a swelling fulness and tightness of the membrane; a sense of heat pervades the whole passage, which changes to acute pain, and is severe on making water, producing what is termed *scalding*; along with these feelings in the part, the discharge undergoes various changes; at first thin, and of a yellowish green colour, it changes to be more viscid, and is afterwards tinged with blood; the member is also at times stiffened through its whole extent, or erected, in consequence of the inflammation producing what is termed *chordee*, from the irregular contraction or curvature of its under part. This circumstance is most frequent at night when warm in bed. Along with these

symptoms of the part, there is sometimes felt a general uneasiness in the loins, testicles and bladder, which not unfrequently affects the whole of the lower belly. If a Clap is left to itself, these symptoms will continue for a fortnight; at the end of that period they begin to abate, by the heat of the urine becoming less severe, by the discharge taking on a white appearance, and by the erections giving way. This is considered the second stage of the complaint; and when the abatement of the former symptoms proceeds still farther, so that the discharge is of a ropy viscid nature, then the disease is drawing to a termination, and a cure may be soon expected. Though in a Clap this cure would take place by the efforts of nature alone, without any interference of medicine, yet few patients could submit to the length of time necessary for this, nor suffer the painful feelings to which they must be subjected for a long period; besides, these symptoms, by harrassing the constitution, might lay the foundation of more serious maladies, and in weakly habits would injure the person, by the continuance of the discharge. On the first appearance of the Clap, the cure should be immediately attempted; nor time lost till the disease has established itself. We shall not enter into the various methods which have been attempted for curing this disease; a patient requires to know but one method, and it

is the object of the author here to point out, from his own experience, what he has found most successful. From the symptoms of inflammation which have been described, the first step is to abate this inflammatory state, by opening the bowels by the following cooling purge:

Take of Epsom Salts, one ounce

Nitre, half a drachm.

To be dissolved in a cupful of hot water, and to be taken at night. After the operation of this medicine, the regular use of the specific remedy is then to be begun, the preparation of which is as follows:

Take of White Sublimate, ten grains

Sweet Spirit of Nitre, one ounce

Compound Spirit of Lavendar, thirty drops.

Mix the whole together, and of this mixture let fifteen drops be taken in a glass of water, morning and evening.

The effect of this medicine is to check the progress of the specific inflammation; and by this means the symptoms will of course abate. But though it thus mitigates all the other symptoms, it does not possess an influence sufficiently powerful over the discharge. In addition, therefore, to the drops, a medicine, which it is necessary to join with them, is as follows:

Take of Wood, or Spurge Laurel Powder, and Horse Turpentine, each half a drachm.

To be made with fine flour into twenty-four pills, two of which are to be taken at night, and two in the morning; which, besides checking the discharge, will have the effect of keeping the body gently open. By this practice the author has found an uniform success in curing the Clap; he does not deny, that there may perhaps be cases that will resist this, and every other remedy; but he will say with confidence, that he has never found this fail him, and on that account he is induced to recommend it to the use of patients in this strong manner. Should any of the symptoms resist this practice, particularly the chordee, then the following ointment is to be rubbed along the pipe, or under part of the member:

Take of Mercurial Ointment, one ounce

Powdered Opium, and Camphor, of each half a drachm.

To be mixed with the mercurial ointment, and the whole made thin by the addition of sweet oil, so as to form a liniment; a little of this is to be rubbed once or twice a day, as already recommended. Where a patient is late in applying for assistance, and symptoms of strangury, or difficulty of making urine, which passes only in drops, with much pain, comes on; in this case the inflammation must be subdued before any other plan is attempted. If the pain is very severe, and the patient of a plethoric habit, bleeding will be necessary; after which

the following bolus may be taken, provided the body is already open, and if not, the cooling purge formerly recommended may precede it:

Take of Camphor, four grains

Crude Opium, two grains.

Conserve of Hips, as much as is sufficient to form it into a bolus.

Which is to be repeated every night, till the strangury is relieved; and during the day, the following powders may be taken, to the number of two or three in the course of it:

Take of Powdered Gum Arabic, half a scruple
Nitre, eight grains.

To be rubbed into powder, with a little white sugar, for one dose. When the strangury is relieved by the above means, then the plan formerly directed must be had recourse to, in order to complete the cure. During the progress of every Clap, an attention to cleanliness cannot be too much recommended, by frequently washing the parts with luke-warm milk and water, to prevent the acrimony of the discharge, which is apt to fret the skin where it touches; and to prevent this, it may also be proper to cover the point of the yard with a small bit of lint, to absorb the matter. Nor is regimen to be considered less necessary in the cure of the Clap, than the other heads of treatment; every thing that heats and stimulates the body increases the inflammation of the part, and

promotes the discharge. All high seasoned foods are to be strictly avoided, and spirituous liquors of every kind. The patient should confine himself to a mild nutritious diet, consisting chiefly of vegetable matter, in the form of pudding, and other light dishes; and when animal food is used, it should be boiled in the soluble form. The drink should consist of lemonade, and other diluent beverage, well acidulated with vegetable acid, or cream of tartar. This restriction of diet will be more necessary in the first stage than afterwards; as the symptoms of inflammation abate, the patient may indulge with a little more freedom, but should still be cautious to avoid excess; for no disease is so apt to suffer a relapse from irregularities in this respect as Clap. In enforcing attention to regimen, some regard must, however, be paid to the habit and constitution of the person. Where the habit is delicate and nervous, the restriction recommended would be apt to affect the general health, therefore it cannot be so *rigorously* complied with; it must be left to the judgment of the patient what he can bear, and in these cases a due medium will be the best rule. In the above treatment the author has not introduced the use of injections; he has seldom found them necessary. In the first stage of the disease they are certainly hurtful; and if in the progress of it they are employed to hasten the abatement of the discharge,

they should be very weak, in order to produce their effect gradually. If the patient, therefore, is anxious to get quit of the discharge, he may occasionally use a slight injection, of the following form :

Take of Sugar of Lead, eight grains

White Vitriol, five grains

Rose water, eight ounces.

Mix well together : a little is to be put into a tea-cup, from which a syringe is to be filled, and injected three or four times a day, according to the discretion of the patient. In injecting it, a finger should be applied on each side the orifice of the passage, to confine the point of the syringe, and prevent the fluid escaping ; and after being retained a few seconds, the instrument is to be withdrawn. The effect of the injection will show the propriety of its use to the patient in a day or two.

OF CLAP IN WOMEN.

The symptoms of Clap in Women are pretty much the same as those in the male ; but, from the different situations of the parts, and that the urine is not discharged by the same passage which forms the seat of the disease in men, they are not apt to arise to the same violence. Clap is therefore, a milder disease in women than in men : the principal symptom in them, is the discharge ;

which is, however, more apt to excoriate and fret the surrounding skin, than it does in men: the disease in them is also more difficult to cure. An attention to these differences, is all that is necessary to the cure: in regulating the treatment, the same plan already directed, must be put in practice; but, as the inflammatory symptoms are not so violent, the drops and pills can be almost immediately begun, and continued in a regular manner till the cure is completed. It may even be assisted by the use of injections; the best of which, in order to prevent the appearance of any stain on the linen, which might detect the complaint, is a strong infusion of green tea; an application which most women themselves know. In using it, it should be very frequently employed; and in order to be successful, the patient must place herself in a proper position, and her breech well elevated, and the syringe should be very broad pointed, so as accurately to fill the passage, and prevent the escape of the liquor, till it has reached every part of the seat of the disease. So mild has this complaint often been known in the female, that a woman has given the infection for years to those who have cohabited with her, while no symptoms of it appeared, or were even known to herself.

OF BUBO.

Bubo is a swelling from chancre, or a venereal sore situated on the nut, foreskin, or any way externally ; the infection, when the sore is not immediately destroyed, is conveyed through the vessels that open into it, to the first glands in their course, which are those of the groin ; it there occasions a painful inflammation and tumour, which begins with some degree of hardness and swelling, not larger than a kidney bean. As the swelling increases, it becomes painful, and the person walks with difficulty : the skin over it becomes red and inflamed, rising into a tumour, with a good deal of throbbing and pulsation in it ; in the course of a week or ten days, it becomes often larger than a pullet's egg. The infection which occasions bubo, generally takes place in the first stage of a chancre, or in eight or ten days after its first appearance. The inflammation in the glands would seem, as it were, a temporary effort of the constitution to resist the farther progress of the poison. In some cases, the infection has been known to pass into the habit, without the appearance of chancre, and the infection from chancre may also be carried into the body, without any bubo, or swelling of the groin being formed, as the whole vessels arising

from the parts of generation do not constantly pass through the glands of the groin. Bubo is very frequently produced by irritating applications to a chancre, which renders the vessels more active and more fit for absorption. The treatment of bubo, is a point that often requires much judgment: like every other glandular swelling, it either subsides without breaking the skin, or it comes to a head, and discharges a quantity of matter, by the skin of the part giving way. It has often been disputed, whether it is better to make it subside without breaking the skin, or to bring it to a head, when a sore is afterwards left to be healed. This point must be left to the constitution of the patient. If the patient discovers a strong healthy habit of body, and the swelling shows symptoms of active inflammation, the best method is then to bring it to a head, and this will take place very quickly; the sore that succeeds will be trifling, it will heal up in the course of a few days, and the patient is then sensible he is, in the end, to be thoroughly well, without any risk of the disease re-appearing at a future period: but where, on the contrary, the patient discovers a weakly constitution, and there is suspicion of some hereditary taint, as a scrofulous disposition, then the swellings should be made to subside as soon as possible, and the breaking of the skin not endangered, from the

certainty that the sore would both prove troublesome in the healing, and the health of the patient might materially suffer under the long discharge that would necessarily ensue; at the same time, it is to be observed, that in all cases of the subsiding of bubo, some small hard knots always remain, which resist the action of the remedies employed, and lengthen out also the period of the cure; besides it cannot be absolutely determined, but some lurking venereal disposition may be concealed in those hard knots, and occasion the disease to break out at some distant time. Having thus settled the mode of treatment, it is next proper to state, what is to be done, where the swelling is to be dispersed, without coming to a head. The first point, in all cases of bubo, or swelling of the groin, is to begin the use of mercury, and in order that it may be made as active as possible on the part, it should be made to pass through the seat of the disease; it should therefore be introduced by unction, in the manner formerly stated under chancre, by being rubbed every night, in the quantity of half a drachm to a drachm, upon the thigh of the affected side, and if the skin should become fretted by the rubbing, then the surface should be changed to the belly, or any part of the extremity not affected. Much attention of the patient is necessary to conduct the rubbing properly; it should be steadily

and regularly persevered in, and not less than twenty minutes consumed at a time in doing it, in order that the remedy may be completely introduced into the skin; along with this treatment, the subduing the symptoms of inflammation is not to be neglected; when there is much inflammation, the application of leeches may be made; a spare diet should be strictly adhered to, and the bowels kept regular by the use of cooling purgatives, such as were formerly recommended under the head of clap. Rest will also form an essential part of the treatment, as every motion of the body affects the part: it is also common to apply a plaster over the swelling, and this may be done so soon as some appearance of subsiding takes place; the plaster commonly used is as follows: Take of the common mercurial plaster spread on leather, of a proportion cut somewhat larger than the size of the swelling: the skin over the swelling should be first shaved, that the plaster may apply closer, and it should be cut in the edges, to make it firmly adhere. If the swelling give much pain, an opiate may be given to abate it, and the form already noticed, under the head of Swelled Testicle, will answer the purpose; in this manner, the plan of treatment is to be conducted, and the unction of the mercury continued for some time after all morbid appearances are gone, which cannot be less than five or six weeks. But when an opposite termination of

the disease is wanted, or the swelling is to be brought to a head, then the proceedings must be directed to increase instead of diminishing the inflammation of the part ; for this purpose, the application of a warm poultice will be proper, which should be renewed occasionally through the day : the poultice may be made in the following manner : Take a sufficient quantity of the soft of bread, and soak it in boiling water for a few minutes, gently pressing off the superfluous fluid ; then beat it to a pulp, and add as much linseed meal as will render the whole somewhat tenacious, it should be spread on linen cloth, about the thickness of a quarter of an inch, and a little oil spread upon it before being applied ; it is to be retained in its place by a bandage put round the waist, and another brought between the thighs, or still better by the common suspensory bandage, which may be had of all the truss-makers. The medicine is to be continued in the same manner as where the subsiding is to take place ; but, as the mode of introducing it is of less consequence here, it may be made as easy as possible for the patient. Instead, therefore, of the unction, the mercury may be introduced internally, either in the form of pill, or drop, as formerly recommended under chancre. Instead of a spare diet enjoined above, full living will hasten the maturation of the tumour, and may therefore be in-

dulged in. Opiates will also be necessary, where the state of pain requires it, and the form already described, will answer every purpose. When the swelling is come to a head, the next point is, whether it must be allowed to break of itself, or be opened by an operation. It certainly is most advisable to break of itself; for, when that takes place, a patient may be satisfied the parts within are in a more favourable state for healing afterwards, than where the skin is divided for the discharge of the matter, before the process is fully completed. The skin being thus allowed to break, the matter will flow, and the poultice should be continued for a day or more after this event happens, till the whole comes away. When this is done, the treatment of the sore is the next object: if the mercury has had sufficient influence on the habit during the time the swelling was coming forward, the sore will heal kindly, and any common dressing will answer, such as a little Turner's cèrate, or white ointment; but where the swelling has broken before the mercury has been long enough continued to destroy the venereal disposition, then it must be persevered in, and the dressings of the sore must be of the same kind as formerly given under the head of chancre. When the sore is once healed, it will be necessary to strengthen the habit by the use of bark and steel; the form of which will be seen under the Consequences of Chancre.

CONSEQUENCES OF BUBO.

The preceding is the regular progress of bubo, where the habit of the patient is good, and the swelling possesses an active venereal disposition, yet the case is very different when the same disease occurs in a weakly constitution, and where it is combined with other latent maladies ; thus the sore in bubo, instead of healing kindly, on the contrary, enlarges much, is attended with great pain, becomes thickened in its edges, and discharges a thin ill-smelling matter. Such sores have been known to spread over the whole of the under belly, and even to eat into its cavity, and end in the death of the patient. In this case, the leading step in the treatment, is to leave off the use of mercury, and to attend only to the constitutional disease ; in many instances by merely doing this, and removing the patient into the country, with the use of a milk diet, the sores have healed up ; but as this cannot always be depended on, the application of caustic to the sore has often suspended its progress, while, by giving opium and other sedatives internally, the sore has come to heal up. No certain plan can be laid down in such situations, and the patient must not here trust to himself.

CHANCRE

Is a sore on the outer skin, in consequence of the application of venereal matter. This sore shows no disposition to heal : it becomes thickened at its base, and its inflammation extends : the time after infection, at which it makes its appearance, is three or four days, though it is often as early as twenty-four hours, and on other occasions it shows itself at the distance of some weeks ; it is preceded by a sense of itching in the part, and its seat is most commonly within the foreskin or on the nut, though every part exposed to infection may be equally occupied by it. Persons subject to fissures of the foreskin, are particularly liable to the complaint, and can hardly escape the infection when exposed to it. The constitution of the person determines much the appearance and progress of the sore in chancre ; if it shows a strong tendency to spread, and gets very foul under the use of medicine, then it is a complaint highly alarming.

On the appearance of the chancre, the first step should be to destroy it by the application of lunar caustic, (fixed in the end of a quill,) which should be applied to all the diseased surface, and carried even somewhat beyond it. This application is to be renewed as soon as the diseased slough begins to separate, till the surface below appears healthy

and free from disease; but this practice applies only where the chancre is discovered early, or in the first twenty-four hours after its appearance: when it exceeds that time, there is always danger of part of the matter being conveyed from the sore into the body, and it will be necessary to use internal medicines, to guard against any future effects it may produce. The following form of internal medicine should therefore be begun :

Take of Calomel, prepared, one drachm

Crude Opium, half a drachm

Conserve of Hips, a quantity sufficient to form a mass.

Which is to be divided into sixty pills, one of which is to be taken night and morning. Where medicine, in the form of pills, is disliked, it may be taken with equal advantage in the form of drops : as,

Take of Corosive Sublimate, ten grains

Rectified Spirits of Wine, four ounces

Canada Balsam, and Gum Guaiacum, each half an ounce

Oil of Sassafras; one drachm.

Dissolve the mercury in half the spirits of wine, and in the other half, dissolve the balsams; when completely dissolved, shake the bottle well, and after it has subsided, pour the clear liquor off for use. Of this tincture, let from ten to twenty drops be taken in a glass of wine and water every morn.

ing. Either of these medicines is to be continued for some time after the appearance of the chancre is removed, and the infection apparently eradicated. Should both these forms of medicine disagree with the patient, from a delicate state of the stomach and bowels, then the medicine must be introduced by the skin in the form of unction, for this purpose, let half a drachm to a drachm of common blue ointment be rubbed in every night upon the inside of the thigh, occasionally shifting the part of the skin or surface from one thigh to the other, to prevent excoriation. The blue ointment is easily made in the following manner :

Take of Quicksilver, two ounces

Goosegrease, one ounce

Hogslard, one ounce and a half.

The quicksilver and goosegrease are first to be rubbed together, till the quick silver is killed ; then add the hogslard. This quantity of ointment will generally be sufficient to effect a cure in recent cases. But where the chancre has appeared for some time, presents a large surface, and has evidently tainted the habit, then the application of the caustic will not destroy the disease, and other local forms will be more effectual. These forms may either consist of an ointment or wash ; the ointment most commonly employed is the red precipitate, or calomel, which is as follows :

Take of Red Precipitate, one drachm ; or,

Calomel, two drachms

Spermaceti Cerate, half an ounce.

Let the precipitate or calomel be rubbed on a marble slab, with a small quantity of oil, till they are well blended; then add the spermaceti ointment. With this ointment the sore is to be dressed, by spreading a little of it on a piece of lint. If the chancre is not situated on the external surface, but within the foreskin, it may be touched with a little of the ointment by means of a hair pencil. This ointment the author has found more efficacious than most others; and though a great variety are in use, it would only confuse a patient to insert any more. But in many cases of chancre, as ointments or greasy applications disagree with the skin, the form of a wash is found a preferable application. The best wash the author has found to be a solution of caustic, as follows:

Take of Lunar Caustic, eight grains.

Rose Water, eight ounces.

Mix them till the caustic is dissolved; then wash the chancre with a little of it three or four times a day. Where a mercurial wash is preferred, the corrosive solution serves very well, of the following strength:

Take of Corrosive Sublimate, twelve grains

Lime Water, eight ounces.

Mix them together; to be used in the same manner as the former. In women, chancres show much

the same appearance as they do in men ; but from the different structure of the parts, as women expose a greater extent of surface than men for infection, chancres in them are apt to be more numerous, and in the treatment of them it is also more difficult to apply dressings ; their cure, therefore, must be trusted more to internal medicines than external applications : and of the latter, the form of wash will suit them best. The cure of chancres in general, does not exceed from three weeks to a month ; during that time, the mouth should be kept slightly affected by the internal medicines, or the gums show that red or slightly inflammatory state which marks the proper action of the remedy. It is only by absorption, or forming a chancre, that the venereal poison is introduced into the body ; which is termed its primary action : under certain circumstances, the matters of clap and pox give rise to different symptoms, which are generally described as the consequences of this primary action of the poison. The consequences from clap are more numerous than those from chancre. The first to be noticed is

SWELLED TESTICLE.

Swelled Testicle is a symptom apt to come on during the first stage of clap, when the inflammation runs high, and where violent purgatives, as some-

times happens, have been imprudently used. It begins with a sharp pain and stiffness of the cord, which enlarges, and, along with the testicles, gradually increases to a considerable size. It is attended with acute fever, and there is felt a particular uneasiness over the thighs and belly: when it terminates, the running of the clap, which is generally suspended during its progress, returns in increased quantity. To remove this symptom, as depending upon inflammation, the first step is to draw blood from the arm, and to cover the testicles with an emollient poultice, as follows:

Take of Elder flowers, or green leaves, a small handful

Marshmallow leaves, Camomile, and Wormwood, the same quantity;

which are to be boiled together, in two quarts of water, for ten minutes or a quarter of an hour. The water is then to be strained off, and used repeatedly as a fomentation during the day, while a poultice made of the boiled materials, mixed up with crumbs of bread, and the addition of a little sweet oil, be applied at night. Along with these, much attention is to be paid to support the part; for which a horizontal posture, with rest, are to be strictly enjoined. When there is much pain, an opiate will be proper, which may be given in the following form, and repeated according to circumstances:

Take of purified Opium, one grain

Antimonial powder, four grains.

To be formed into a pill, with conserve of hips, and taken for a dose. In this complaint, the bowels are to be kept open by the following electuary :

Take of Lenitive Electuary, four ounces

Cream of Tartar, two ounces

Powdered Rhubarb, two drachms

Nitre, half an ounce;

Rub these together, and add as much of simple syrup as is sufficient to make them into an electuary. Of this, two tea spoonfuls may be taken in a morning for a dose, or a larger quantity, if necessary. By this treatment the swelling will soon abate, and the testicles be reduced to their natural size ; but, should some stiffness and hardness remain, mercurial unction may then be had recourse to, and a hemlock poultice applied to the part, which may be made by boiling a handful of the leaves of the fresh plant, in a pint of water, for five minutes, and thickening the strained liquor with bread or oatmeal, with a little linseed meal.

WASTING OF THE TESTICLES,

Is sometimes a consequence of a venereal cause ; but this circumstance only occurs in some rare cases. In consequence of pox or clap, the testicles have been known to waste, though this circumstance oftener arises from a spontaneous decay, than such diseases. It is apt to happen in delicate relaxed habits, with a wan sallow complexion. It does not come on till after the age of forty ; it first begins in one testicle, which gradually lessens without pain, and it proceeds till nothing is left but the membrane of the part ; the decay of the other testicle then begins, and it undergoes the same process. It does not appear to lessen at all the venereal powers of the person. No cure has yet been discovered for this complaint, though a blister has been once known to suspend its progress.

OF GLEET.

A Gleet is the consequence of clap, and often very distressing to the patient. It is the continuance of the discharge, after all the symptoms of clap are gone. This symptom arises from the relaxed state of the passage, from an ulceration having taken place of some part of it, or from a degree of stricture

confining the passage at some particular point. No disease is more difficult to cure than this, and it has often resisted every application that has been made to it. Where the treatment the author recommended in the clap, is strictly adhered to, this symptom he has never known to arise, and in every case of gleet, the author would therefore advise it as the first plan to be tried; should it fail, there is then much reason to believe, that the cause lies in stricture; in which case, a bougie should be employed; those made by Lallier he has found the most successful, and the bougie should be continued at a time as long as the patient can bear, and it will generally effect a cure. See Stricture. Where stricture is the cause of this symptom, sometimes a blister applied on the perineum, or space between the testicles and fundament, also will remove it. When it arises from simple relaxation, the following balsamic pills will answer:

Take of Boiled Turpentine, two drachms

Rhubarb, one drachm

White Vitriol, ten grains.

Form into thirty-six pills, three to be taken twice a day, or, in place of this, the Steel and Bark may be given in the following form:

Take of Muriated Tincture of Steel, two drachms

Huxham's Tincture of Bark, one ounce and a half.

Of this tincture, let a tea-spoonful be taken twice a day, in a glass of water, or port wine.

SEMINAL WEAKNESS

Consists in an involuntary discharge of the seed. It often arises where the patient has been subject to repeated claps, and where they have been attended with slight inflammation affecting the higher parts of the passage, near the neck of the bladder. The discharge in this case, either oozes away insensibly in the form of a matter like mucus, thinner than the natural seed, or it comes off with some degree of spasm at the time of emission, and is produced by the slightest irritation, as heat, wine, exercise, or the mere effort of going to stool. Independent also of a venereal cause, this complaint is too often the effect of the patient's own imprudence, and the indulgence in practices which are unhappily contracted at an early period. Impotence is generally the attendant of this state, and the consciousness of this on the part of the patient, renders him so miserable, that he becomes a prey to every advertising quack, who holds out to him the certainty of a cure. The treatment of this complaint is attended with considerable difficulty. Where the discharge comes away insensibly, a nourishing diet, with sea-bathing, and the use of tonics, are

the only means to be resorted to. The following remedy has been found useful:

Take of the Essential Salt of Bark, two drachms
Gum Olibanum, one drachm

Simple Syrup, sufficient to make a mass.

To be made into thirty-six pills, three of which are to be taken two or three times a day. During the use of this medicine, where sea bathing cannot be employed, the parts may be bathed with cold water, in which sea salt, and crude sal ammoniac have been dissolved in the proportion of a drachm of each, or more, to the pint. When the discharge comes off with a regular spasm or an emission, the use of antispasmodic remedies will be proper, as,

Take of Russian Castor, one scruple

Rectified Oil of Amber, twelve drops

Volatile Salts, ten drops

Cinnamon Water, two ounces

Syrup of Cloves, two drachms.

To be made into a draught, and taken twice a day; or if a pill is preferred, the following may be substituted:

Take of Camphor, half a drachm; to be dissolved in a few drops of Spirits of Wine, then add Essential Salt of Bark, one drachm

Rectified Oil of Amber, sufficient to form a mass; to be divided into twenty pills.

Two or three to be taken at a time, and repeated as often as they may become necessary; that is,

twice or three times a day, if the discharge is not suspended.

VENEREAL SORE THROAT

Is generally the first constitutional symptom; it begins with little or no pain; there is felt at first, only a slight pricking on swallowing food; when the throat is examined, ulceration is perceptible, and these ulcers have a particular appearance; they are of a conical shape, often of considerable depth, and they in general attack that part of the throat termed the almonds; on each side they are covered with a foul crust of white thick matter, resembling the fat of bacon; their effects, in the end, are to produce hoarseness, stinking breath, &c. Besides the throat, every part of the mouth may occasionally be the seat of venereal ulcers, though they are most frequent on the palate of the tongue. A deep copper-coloured spot, somewhere between the pap and middle of the palate, is the first appearance; this spot at last becomes ulcerated, and advances rapidly both in breadth and depth. It is generally single, and in this it differs from sores produced here by mercury, which are numerous.

TREATMENT.

The cure of the Venereal Sore Throat, is only to

be accomplished by the proper administration of mercury; but to assist its operation, and check the progress of the sore, and prevent its destroying the soft palate, it is necessary to make applications to the throat in the first instance, in the form of gargle, of which the following will be found one of the most successful;

Take of Muriate of Mercury, two grains

Crude Sal Ammoniac, half a drachm

Infusion of Linseed, eight ounces

Purified Honey, one ounce.

Mix the whole in form of a gargle, with which the throat is to be washed three or four times a day. Instead of a gargle, where the sore spreads very fast, it would be more effectual to touch it with lunar caustic. The patient placing himself before a glass, and having a complete view of the seat of the disease, with the caustic fixed in the end of a quill, it may then be applied to the sore as already directed in Chancre, and when the slough casts off, it may then be dressed with the following application:

Take of Quicksilver and Honey, each one ounce.

Let the mercury be killed, by rubbing it in a marble mortar; then mix with it another ounce of Honey, and one drachm of Essential Oil of Cloves; of this, a little is to be applied often every day to the sore, by means of a hair pencil.

Having thus attended to the local treatment, the constitutional course is at the same time to be regularly gone through; and the mercury may be either introduced by the skin in unction, as directed in the cure of Bubo, or it may be given in the form of the pill or drop, as detailed in the cure of Chancre; in whatever form it is conducted, the course should not be for a shorter period than from five to ten weeks. The patient should be covered with flannel; he should avoid cold and damp, and should be particularly attentive in his diet, to avoid whatever may affect his stomach or bowels, of an acid or unripe vegetable nature, from the irritability which the stomach and bowels acquire under the use of mercury, which renders them apt to be affected by the slightest imprudence. In using the mercury, the mouth should be kept a little sore, and the pulse should be raised to nearly a hundred in a minute. The patient should use plenty of mucilaginous drinks; where gripes come on, they will be best relieved by a glass of warm spirits and water, with a little ginger; but if they come on, attended with looseness, then an opiate will be the best remedy, in the form given in a former part of this work. If salivation, or discharge of fluid from the mouth, is very profuse, then the mercury must be used in a smaller quantity, and in the mean time, the discharge will be suspended by the following wash:

Take of Purified Borax, half an ounce. Dissolve it in a pint of boiling water, and add two ounces of the best Honey; with this the mouth is to be frequently washed in the course of the day.

Where the constitution appears to suffer much from the action of mercury during this course, and excessive sweating ensues from its use, the medicine may be interrupted for a little, and the bark and vitriolic acid employed in its place, in the following manner:

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, two drachms; dissolve it in twelve ounces of water; then add of Huxham's Tincture of Bark, two ounces; of Vitriolic Acid, two drachms. Of this mixture, two table-spoonfuls are to be taken every four hours.

Or this mixture may be used without suspending the use of mercury, and if the sweatings abate under this treatment, the cure will be more speedily completed.

But of all the uneasy symptoms which attend the use of mercury, none is so troublesome as the soreness of the mouth; a symptom which is necessarily connected with the recovery, and which every patient must learn to bear with patience. In this state, nothing gives more uneasiness than eating dry bread. Biscuit soaked in warm water, will answer best; even the palate, during this course,

has its feelings so altered, that a patient loses his relish for many things, which he used to find agreeable. Every thing which is hot and stimulant, should be avoided by the patient, which are the only means to lessen this tendency to inflammation, that the mouth must unavoidably take on during a mercurial course.

VENEREAL ERUPTIONS

Show themselves like spots of a reddish, brownish, or copper colour; they generally appear first on the forehead or breast. More rarely, they have been known to attack the palms of the hands, and in such cases, to be very numerous. Their general appearance is that of spots about the size of spangles, of a copper colour, not raised above the skin; their surface, some time after their appearance, is rough, and falls off in the form of white scales, leaving a slight pit behind. This is repeated till the pit loses its covering, degenerates into an ulcer, which discharges a thin matter mixed with blood, and at other times throws out ragged warty excrescences. With this appearance, the skin has been often known completely covered; and, in the language of some writers, has been compared to a piece of dirty copper. The treatment of venereal eruptions re-

quires the same use of mercury as directed for the former symptom of sore throat. But here it will be more useful to introduce the medicine inwardly, from the diseased state of the skin, which will not so readily bear the friction, and also to join with the mercury some antimonial medicine, which may occasion it to act more powerfully upon the skin. This plan will also be assisted by some decoction, or diet drink of a sweating nature, which will tend greatly to hasten the cure. The following forms of medicine will best answer for these purposes :

Take of Calcined Mercury, of Opium and Camphor, each one drachm

Of Tartar Emetic, six grains

Simple Syrup, as much as will make a mass.

To be formed into sixty pills; one to be taken every night, or, in place of this form:

Take of the Compound Calomel, or Plummer's Pill, one drachm, formed into twelve pills; one to be taken every night and morning.

Diet Drink.

Take of Mezereon, two drachms

Shavings of the Guaiac Wood, two ounces

Liquorice Root, one ounce and a half.

Let them be boiled in two pints of water, till re-

duced to a pint and a half; then strain it, and let a cupful be drank frequently in the day, so as to use a pint in twenty-four hours; or,

Take of Sarsaparilla Root, sliced, three drachms
Mezereon, ditto, one drachm.

To be boiled in five pints of water till reduced to two, and to be used in the same manner as the former.

VENEREAL AFFECTIONS OF THE BONES.

Next to the skin, the poison in its progress, attacks the bones, first by sharp pains, felt particularly in the night time, which depart as the morning advances. These pains are succeeded by some swellings or thickening of the bone, where the pain is most acute. The bones most liable to be affected in this manner, are generally the hardest of the body, as the shin bone, shoulder bone, and also the bones of the head. This swelling is distinguished from other swellings by its situation, by its extreme hardness, by the hot pain attending it, and by this pain becoming more intense every night.

TREATMENT.

This stage of the disease may be considered as

one of the most inveterate, and a cure cannot be expected under a course of three months. The mercury should be thrown in by unction, and particularly from the neighbourhood of the skin, or surface where the swelling is situated, in order that the medicine may pass directly through the swelling. On the swelling itself, the mercurial plaster, as formerly recommended in bubo, or in place of it, the mercurial plaster with gum ammoniac, may be applied. Should these applications have no influence in lessening the swelling, and it shows strong marks of indolence or want of inflammation, it may next be attacked by a blister applied over it, which, as soon as a discharge takes place, will tend to lessen the size. During this plan, the use of the diet drink prescribed above, may be liberally employed; and when the pain is very severe, an opiate may be regularly indulged in at night, the form of which was given under the head of Clap. These are the three principal stages of the Venereal Disease, in its constitutional form; and when the patient has been neglected, and no attempts made at a cure, or where the medicine has not had sufficient power to check its progress, then ulcers form in the parts described, as attacked by the infection, and these ulcers are combined with peculiar circumstances, either from their situation and the texture of the parts they occupy, or from

a fault in the patient's constitution, which renders them difficult to cure. Such ulcers have their sides and bottoms, of a dirty brown appearance, with a fetid acrid discharge, often of a green colour; and this state of the part cannot be changed by any outward application alone. Where the situation of this ulcer is on the part occupied by a blotch, or previous eruption, it gives little pain, but it gradually deepens till it reaches the bone; and if it continue long, a probe may be even passed into the bone; where the ulcer is situated over a bone, and is the consequence of its swelling, it is more painful, and its cure is much more tedious than the former. There are two particular situations where the bones are apt to be affected by such ulcers. The first is the forehead, the bone of which becomes often ulcerated from this disease, and the bones of the head are generally sooner destroyed by it; nay, it is no uncommon occurrence to meet with holes or perforations reaching to the brain; sometimes portions of the skull push out in various shapes, not unlike sprouts of coral. The second situation where such ulcers are most apt to appear, is the bone of the nose; and from the very delicate structure of the parts, their progress here is very rapid. The whole palate will be often destroyed in a week, and the thin plates of bone within the nose, so soon as they become affected, very quickly

lose the principle of life, and before a cure can be effected, they must separate or be thrown off, which is often attended with the most hideous deformity to the patient, and indeed he may be very thankful if he does not lose his life. This ulcer is always attended with the most offensive discharge, which renders it one of the most serious symptoms of the disease. The treatment of all the ulcers in this very advanced stage of the disease, requires much perseverance in the use of mercury, and at the same time to regulate it by what the constitution of the patient can bear. It will be sometimes necessary to give up the course entirely, to put the patient on a bracing plan, and then to begin it anew; along with the mercury it will also be requisite to use every other means that can assist. Thus, the warm bath will be often useful, in order to allow the mercury to accumulate in the body, and to take off symptoms of irritation. The long continued harrassing pain from the disease, must be allayed by a proper use of opium; and the weakness and loss of tone which the medicine may produce, are to be got the better of, or prevented going too far, by the bark, steel, and other strengthening medicines, forms of all which have been already introduced in the preceding part of this work. With respect to the local management of such ulcers, they are to be dressed on the same principles as directed in chancres, when situated externally, and in addition

to the forms already given, may be added the following:

Take of Calomel, one drachm

Mucilage of Gum Arabic, one ounce.

Form them into an ointment, with which the sore may be dressed; or,

Take of Citrine Ointment, half an ounce

Hog's-lard, an ounce and half.

Mix them into an ointment, to be used as the former. Before applying these ointments, the ulcers should be washed with a weak solution of corrosive sublimate, or lunar caustic, according to the forms already detailed under Clap and Chancre. Ulcers of the nose require more particular attention in their treatment than any other. The mercurial action must be produced as quickly as possible, and persevered in unremittingly, till the progress of the ulceration appears checked; it may then be continued more slowly, but should not be given up for a great length of time, till all danger of a relapse is past.

REGIMEN DURING A MERCURIAL COURSE.

Though some general directions have already been given on this head, it may be proper to enforce them on the mind of the patient, by some further observations.

Under the use of mercury, some restraint is absolutely necessary ; this remedy, it is well known, stimulates or increases the action of the system, and a person, during the first days of the course, feels himself in better spirits and health than usual; he gradually becomes more and more irritable; until the pulse quickens ; thus he becomes susceptible of the slightest stimulus, and the propriety of avoiding whatever tends to increase this must be apparent ; as nothing does it sooner than exposure to cold, and stimulating articles of diet, a patient cannot be enjoined too strictly on these heads. If the patient cannot stay at home, or confine himself to an equal temperature, then he should take the advantage of additional clothing when he goes abroad, and shun exposing himself to any situation where the air may be directed in a current or stream upon him. In the diet, some regard to the natural habits of the patient must be had, but still the simpler it is, the more favourable it will be to his cure. It should consist of farinaceous matter, as gruel, or decoction of sarsaparilla, with bread, for breakfast and supper, broth and soup, with a small portion of animal food, will make a suitable dinner. No fermenting liquors should be allowed. Weak wine and water make the best beverage. This is the fittest plan that can be pursued, and every advantage will arise to the patient for having this

restraint upon himself. It is very rare in modern times, that the disease is found to go farther than what the author has described; but where much neglect has happened, and no means of cure have been attended to, other symptoms occur besides those which have been specified. Thus a slight inflammation of the eyes, and dimness of sight, is sometimes met with. In this case, the appearance of the eye is peculiar, and readily distinguished from other inflammations, and it is only to the use of mercury it yields. Another symptom which is observed at times, is fissures of the palms of the hands, and about the anus, and excrescences also about the latter. All these symptoms readily yield to the plan we have detailed. At this time of day, the appearances which marked the disease at its commencement, are unknown. Then the loss of the hair, of the teeth, and even of the eyes, are mentioned as common occurrences; we have reason therefore to infer, that the action of the poison is now of a milder nature, and that the treatment of the disease is better understood; but still there are instances, where a person is baffled in a successful issue of the cure. This arises either from the remedy being carried too far, or from a fault of the constitution of the patient. This has been already noticed, both under Chancre and Bubo; and the same observations apply to the ulcers in the constitutional stage of the

disease. There is no exact period can be prescribed for continuing the course of mercury ; it must be determined by the appearance of the cure. In certain constitutions, the moment the venereal disposition of the sore is subdued, mercury acts as a poison upon the habit. Wherever the venereal ulcers heal up to a certain point, and afterwards become painful, and increase in size, instead of going on, to contract, then there is ground to suppose that the medicine has been continued too long. Instead of being persisted in, or increased in quantity, the mercury should be immediately laid aside, and Bark, opium, and sarsaparilla substituted in its place, along with a milk diet, and a change to the country air. This plan will rectify the faults of the mercury, restore the patient to sound health, and heal up the remains of the disease.

IMAGINARY VENEREAL COMPLAINTS.

It is the misfortune of some patients who have laboured under this malady, to conceive such a dreadful idea of the obstinacy of its nature, that they remain for life the unhappy victims of their own fears, and suppose that the disease remains still in their constitution. The evidence of this they draw from every pimple, blotch, or change of the skin, that shows itself at any period after-

wards, regarding it as a relic of the former complaint. Such patients, it is impossible to undeceive, and they become the prey of every advertising quack, who soon, by his medicine, creates some formidable disease, where none existed, and which finally ends in the ruin of the patient's health, and not unfrequently terminates in his death. The state of the mouth and tongue furnishes also grounds for the same suspicion. Thus, it is common, after a mercurial course, for some rawness, soreness, and even ulceration, to remain for a considerable time, and if mercury is had recourse to by the patient, these symptoms will rapidly increase. The safest plan is, for a patient under these suspicions, to put himself on a course of diet drinks already mentioned; and if the symptoms disappear, which they readily will, this will best convince him of his erroneous opinion.

OBSTRUCTIONS OF THE URINARY PASSAGES.

Diseases of the prostate gland, and other affections of the urethra, I have ever considered very formidable diseases, and the melancholy cases I daily meet with, convince me, that they are really productive of more acute misery, than any other disease to which the human frame is liable; and I am astonished, that men of science and practical knowledge, can sport with their miserable pa-

tients, by the application of caustic. To apply lunar caustic to a part nearly as sensible as the eye, cannot fail to exasperate symptoms already too exasperated: this cruel, this inhuman practice, cannot be too severely reprobated, as producing more fatal effects, than they were designed to cure: for even these daring causticators must admit the practice is ever hazardous, and will not permanently prevent future suppressions; while it gives a fair promise of hæmorrhage, rigors, fever, delirium, extravasation of blood in the perineum, &c. &c. Hence then arises an indisputable fact, that if we consider caustic in a general view, it must prove a destructive agent in the urethra; this principle being settled beyond all question, I shall proceed to lay a *more mild, but equally successful*, practice down; for irritable habits, just removed from a state of health, can ill bear any stimulus; therefore, to avoid local irritation becomes a peculiar object of attention. It was this preposterous and inhuman practice, that induced me to add this Supplement to that intelligent work, *The Domestic Medical Guide*, in hopes the observations, here made, will have some influence on the reflecting part of mankind, and save an unwary individual from the cruel hands of unexperienced practitioners.

Diseases of the prostate gland, very frequently arise from mal-treatment; and patients should be extremely cautious in their application to medical men: for, in this age, so remarkable for innovation,

both in the manners and government of mankind; many an individual, without the least pretension to medical knowledge, assumes that character, to the detriment of thousands; and I must confess, I feel no slight degree of astonishment, that this species of fraud, should go unpunished by the legislature, for of all traffics, this is the most dangerous and reprehensible. At the corner of every street in the metropolis are placed the emissaries of those abandoned men, who, for the sake of lucre, dare tamper with human life, murdering his Majesty's subjects without remorse; justice and humanity loudly call for the interference of the legislature, as by those impositions a science of the first utility to mankind is, in a great measure, rendered abortive, by the introduction of men, never educated for the medicinal practice; and who depend on a certain unchemical specific as a remedy for every disease, their advertising jargon may bring within their reach: I earnestly entreat every individual, cautiously to avoid these practical murderers; for, they may rest assured, they will not only fleece their pockets, but their constitutions too: the best rule of action they can follow, when disease becomes their inmate, is to apply to a regular practitioner, to whom, with confidence, they may speak: many I know are deterred from applying to their family's medical friend, for fear of being betrayed; but, believe me, this is a childish fear,

and may be productive of the worst of consequences; no medical man will divulge his patient's case, where secrecy is requisite; for that would be a positive injury to himself: independent of these considerations, he will treat them with an humanity, unknown or not recognized by the daring empiric; for he will not trifle, merely on a presumption that delay can create no danger. I know a suspicion of that kind is frequently entertained by patients; a suspicion that drives many to the empiric, who promises every thing, but performs nothing: this suspicion is as unfounded as the rest, and in a great measure, seconded by the nefarious practices of unprincipled drug venders, who, by the shameful adulteration of drugs, disappoint the hopes of the patient and practitioner, and thus contribute to diminish the confidence of the public; for the patient, tired of a tedious cure, flies to these empirics, who increase his disorder, and his expenses; nor are patients themselves exempt from blame; for we too frequently find they desert one practitioner for another, and the last practitioner sometimes earns the laurels of the other; but more frequently the patient is made to suffer for his caprice; little advantage is acquired in a captious change; but no rule being without an exception, I cannot lay down a gene-

ral plan; all I wish to impress on the mind of the patient is, that an unnecessary change of a medical attendant, is never to be recommended, and more particularly so, when labouring under this disease; for the generality of practitioners, essentially vary in their mode of practice, and the captious patient often has to lament, at the expense of his general health, the change; and another inducement patients have for deserting the regular practitioner, is—the cheap rate drugs are retailed at at many shops; these shops, it is true, may retail them at a cheaper rate; but the question that arises here, is, *whether the drugs are genuine?* for it is a notorious fact, that these retailers of cheap drugs, can sell their powders, &c. &c. for half the price the substances can be obtained in the drug market!

CONTRACTION OF THE URETHRAL PASSAGES.

This disease obstructs the free passage of the urine, and causes it either to come in a small forked, twisted stream, or drop by drop, with considerable pain; if the urethral canal is not much lessened by the stricture, it may exist many years without any great degree of inconvenience; but though this may be the case respecting the urine, I am led to conceive, that the semen in the act of coi-

tion, may not properly be directed into the vagina; of course attention to this stage of the disease becomes requisite; and more particularly in the advanced period of life, as the expelling powers for evacuating the urine, and ejecting the semen become weaker. A real contracted state of the urethra is most frequently produced by the cicatrices of ulcers; astringent injections, when applied in a state of inflammation, may be a cause of stricture, but that is not the fault of the injection, but of the improper use of it; for in cases of gonorrhœa I know of no remedy so effectual, or one that in its operation is more mild.

In all obstructions of the urethra, a long continued course of mercury appears the most probable chance of giving relief; a plentiful use of mucilaginous drinks being also given: the utility of hemlock in these cases, some practitioners have doubted; but in combination with opium and mercury, great advantage may be derived. I usually give it in the following manner:

Take of Calomel, ten grains
 Extract of Hemlock, one scruple
 Purified Opium, six grains.

To be divided into twenty pills: one to be taken morning and evening. The use of the bougie, in cases of urethral strictures, cannot be dispensed with: among the variety I have tried, Lallier's by far I prefer; from all the experience of a long at-

tendance at the united Hospitals of St. Thomas's and Guy's, I can venture to affirm, that these bougies far surpass all others, and upon the improved plan of increasing their size, I am led to believe still greater advantage may be derived, dilatation in this and all urethral cases being a primary object to be obtained*.

Dr. R. White, in his Practical Surgery, says, "Experience has proved, that M. Lallier's Bougies, are much easier to be borne than others, and have been more efficacious; he illustrates his remark by observing, that in an obstinate case of stricture in three different parts of the urethra, they effected a cure, in a very short time, and were worn by the patient with the greatest ease; in short, the texture of these bougies is of that peculiar nature, that they slide along the urethra without pain." Diseases of the perineum and anus, will frequently yield to the application of a bougie, when every other mode of action has failed. Suppression of urine, partial or total, is a disease requiring early attention, whether it arises, from a temporary spasm, or is caused by an enlarged, or indurated prostate gland, contractions of the passage, tubercles, callous ulcers, or from old

Messrs. Reece and Co. Chemists, No. 25, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, have always a large assortment of these bougies, being appointed by Mr. Morris, successor to Mr. Lallier, sole agents for the purpose of more regularly supplying the faculty with them.

cicatrix, is here of little consequence, for the treatment of the one is correspondent to the treatment of the other. If suppression of urine arises from a natural stricture, I then consider the disease inherent in the constitution, and which the application of a bougie can only remove, for incurable would have been this disease, but for this invention. I am sorry to add, that numbers of persons have unhappily lost their lives from being reduced to the above situation, and this partly from not knowing the good effect of bougies; and it is well known that before their use, gleet was deemed incurable, but I have never found a gleet so obstinate as to resist their efficacy. When the urethra is affected by stricture, the urine comes in small quantities, is scattered and forked, and with it a small quantity of matter; the desire of making water increases, and perhaps with considerable pain a few drops come; on pressure, a degree of pain is felt, most commonly on the part where the stricture is situated, but to clearly ascertain whether a stricture really exists, is by the introduction of a bougie.

Take a bougie of a middle size, smeared with oil; let the patient, either in a standing posture or lying on his back, gradually introduce it into the urethra; should it meet with resistance from the stricture, he should endeavour slowly and gently to push it on, without having occasion for a se-

cond introduction; this is to be done by twirling it between the thumb and finger, without using any force; should blood appear, he must desist; when once passed, it should be left for two or three hours or more, unless the irritation is great, when it should be immediately withdrawn, and, at all events, on its first introduction never kept above half an hour, or till it gives pain; thus by degrees each time continued longer; and after it is introduced, a piece of cotton thread should be fastened to the end of it, lest it should insinuate itself into the bladder, or beyond reach. If a patient can submit to wear it nine or ten hours in a day, he will in all probability be much sooner relieved, and if it does not stimulate too much by a constant application, it is certainly a prudent step to wear it night and day without intermission; but if that is not done, the patient had better only use it in the day time. Patients labouring under these diseases have reason to dread a return of them, but this in most cases may be prevented by having a supply of bougies in their possession. The proper time to apply bougies is an hour or two before the usual time of rising in the morning. The use of Lallier's bougie, when once begun, should be regularly persevered in, nor should a failure in passing it at first deter the patient from persisting in the attempt; it may not be unnecessary to observe, that while an affection of the urethra continues, intemperance and high

living must be avoided; for when corpus spongiosum urethr is distended, the bougie will not operate so kindly. What renders these complaints so difficult of cure is, persons neglecting to apply in time; looking on its first commencement as proceeding from the stone or gravel, they content themselves with those remedies applicable to such cases, till at length from excessive drinking, a long journey, or some similar cause, the obstacles are so far increased, as to bring on nearly total suppression of urine; the disorder all this time is permitted to gain ground, and the cure becomes more difficult; whereas, by an early application to some regular practitioner, the nature of the complaint would have before been discovered, and a proper mode of cure directed. It is now acknowledged that suppurative bougies answer every intention of cure in the diseases I speak of; and in proportion as the strictures are removed, the urine flows freely through the urethra, the callosities soften, and the fistulous openings show a good disposition to heal; mere dilatation in urethral strictures, will neither relieve the patient, or promote the views of the surgeon; a medicative power we must seek for, capable of acting on the urethral membranes and mucal glands, so as to produce a good discharge. A question here naturally arises, do metallic bougies possess a medicative power? no, they merely act by dilatation and abstraction, and

I am led to conceive that passing and repassing over so delicate and irritable a surface as the inside of the urethra unquestionably is, a great disadvantage may arise from their application; did metallic bougies possess galvanic power, what greater advantage would that principle give them over the plaster bougie, I confess myself ignorant of: an union of pewter, bismuth and tin, are in my opinion, of no real merit, as far as regards the removal of urethral strictures.

M. Lallier was seven years the assistant of Jacques Daran, a name renowned for his success in the cure of urethral maladies. Indeed the proofs of Lallier's experience are so numerous, that it would occupy volumes in recapitulating the cases he has at different times laid before the public; for to his own experience he added that of his illustrious master, who has left a reputation no causticating practitioner can destroy; they may face the temple of Ephesus, but amid the flame they perish, leaving to posterity a practice, barbarous in its adoption, and detestable in its pursuit; while the mild and judicious practice of the humane Lallier, shall, like the early vegetation of young spring, gather daily strength; for in the adoption of Lallier's practice, we neither have risk, danger, or fatality; while the deleterious effects of causticating adventurers promise to depopulate the human race, by destroying the sensibility and functions of the procrea-

tive powers, leaving behind cicatrices that promise an early contraction, &c. &c. The effect of this practice is now I trust too well understood to require further comments; suffice it for me at present to conclude, by recommending a regular life and a strict attention to a vegetable diet; otherwise many troublesome symptoms will be apt to arise, which will oblige the surgeon to discontinue the use of the bougie for a time; and of course protract the cure.

THE END.

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